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FALL FUN FROM DPS FOUNDATION

Open minds. Open doors.



2018-19 Annual Report

Our 2018-2019 Annual Report, which highlights some of the exciting programs at Detroit Public Schools Community District, is available now!

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Grantee Highlight: Workforce Partnership Initiative (WPI)



Thank you to the JP Morgan Chase Foundation, United Way for Southeastern Michigan and the Skillman Foundation for funding the Workforce Partnership Initiative (WPI) this year! Now in its second year, the WPI aims to ensure that DPSCD high school students are exposed to numerous career pathways that will provide dual-enrollment opportunities, work-based learning, internships and summer employment. Exploring high-growth job sectors is vital to ensuring that upon graduation our students are prepared for college or career.

School Uniforms



Each year, the Foundation awards mini-grants to Detroit Public Schools Community District schools, programs and non-profit organizations that serve DPSCD students. This year, both The School at Marygrove and Fisher Magnet Upper Academy received emergency grants to ensure students had school uniforms. These two grants provided uniforms for more than 450 students!

[Learn more about mini-grants](#)

Eastside Ford Resource and Engagement Center (FREC) Partner Meeting



Since October 2017, over 20 community-based partners and organizations have helped FREC provide programs, resources and services to the eastside community. Last month, the Foundation was proud to attend this convening which served as an opportunity for FREC partner organizations to share news about their programs and make connections with others to leverage resources that will further benefit students, parents and the community as a whole.

[Learn more about the FREC](#)

Detroit College Promise Scholarships



Our Detroit College Promise program provides high school graduates attending Michigan colleges with much-needed financial assistance. Additionally, we link students to mentorship programs for support and guidance during their first year. In 2019, 37 students received these vital scholarships. This year, our goal is to provide this opportunity to 50 students, but we need your help! As scholarship recipient Audrey said, "The scholarship has helped me with tuition, books, and other little things that I need. It has helped me not have to pay so much for school. I don't have to take a loan out every year."

Join us in supporting more students like Audrey this school year. Make a donation to the Detroit College Promise Scholarship fund today!

[Donate to Detroit College Promise](#)

Applications for the 2020 Detroit College Promise scholarship (and other scholarships as well) are now open! The deadline to apply is February 14, 2020. Please share widely so it reaches all Detroit Public Schools Community District seniors!

[Learn more about scholarships](#)

DPSCD Professional Development Day and District Updates



On Tuesday, November 5, over 4,200 DPSCD educators from all 110 Detroit Public Schools Community District schools attended #DPSCDRiseUp, a full-day of professional development. Educators heard key messages of support, appreciation and encouragement, including an uplifting opening presentation from Superintendent Dr. Nikolai Vitti that spoke to accomplishments made to date and the work that lies ahead. Some highlights:

- Chronic absenteeism has decreased 7% so far this year
- Teacher salaries have increased
- DPSCD out-performed the state average in ELA and Math scores on M-STEP
- The district has drastically reduced teacher vacancies, ensuring schools are adequately staffed

Attendees also learned effective pedagogical strategies from professor and author Dr. Jeff Duncan-Andrade, participated in break-out sessions that complemented their content areas and networked with fellow educators. Thank you to General Motors, School Specialty, Academic Approach, Renaissance, Curriculum Associates and Pearson US Learning Services for supporting DPSCD educators!

Champions of Education Success



On October 8, we celebrated students, educators and partners at our 6th Annual Champions of Education fundraiser presented by Ford Motor Company Fund. The event, which took place at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, raised funds to provide DPSCD children with educational experiences that will ensure students are college and career ready. Thank you to everyone who attended for helping us reach our fundraising goal that evening!

Roop Raj of Fox 2 served as the evening's master of ceremonies and remarks were given by Superintendent Nikolai Vitti and Randolph Vocational School student Damon Smith. The talents of DPSCD students were showcased, with performances from Detroit School of Arts Jazz Band, the Renaissance High School Choir, and the Cass Technical High School Dance Workshop. The event honored the eleven DPSCD Educators of the Year, as well as community partners The Skillman Foundation and Ally Financial.

[Read more](#)

